

Brigham Young

Second President of the Church

From the Journal of Andrew Fjeld

Brigham Young was born June 1, 1801, and when he became the leader of the church he was in the 44th year of his age.

Forty-two days after the martyrdom of the Prophet and Patriarch, the Quorum of the Apostles were sustained as the Presidency of the Church with Brigham Young as President of the Quorum.

Three years and five months later, the First Presidency was reorganized, Dec. 5, 1847, at Winter Quarters, after Brigham Young had returned from leading the Original Pioneers to Salt Lake Valley. Brigham Young was selected and sustained as the President of the Church and he selected Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards as his Counselors. Willard Richards died March 11, 1854, when Jedediah M. Grant was called to fill the vacancy. Jedediah M. Grant died Dec. 1, 1856, and was succeeded by Daniel H. Wells. Heber C. Kimball died June 22, 1868, and George A. Smith, grandfather to George Albert Smith, was sustained as First Counselor to Brigham Young.

Brigham Young presided over the Church for a period of a little over thirty-three years, and during his administration he performed a work for which he was better qualified than any other leader of the Church before his time or after. He was a great Prophet, Statesman, Pioneer and Colonizer.

President Young died August 29, 1877, in his 77th year.